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**FORMER TULARE BUSINESS OWNER SENTENCED TO 87-MONTH
PRISON TERM FOR RECEIVING IMAGES OF THE SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN VIA THE INTERNET**

FRESNO – United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that MICHAEL PATRICK BRAZIL, 51, of Tulare, California, was sentenced Monday, September 25, 2006 by the United States District Court Anthony W. Ishii for his conviction of one count of receiving images of the sexual exploitation of children. Brazil was sentenced to federal prison for a term of 87 months to be followed by a term of supervised release of 11 years. While serving his prison term, he will be required to attend the federal sex offender treatment program in Butner, North Carolina. During the period of supervised release, BRAZIL will be required to register as a sex offender, and his access to minors and computers will be restricted.

The case was the result of a joint investigation by the Tulare Police Department, and the Fresno office of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

BRAZIL admitted in a plea agreement that between September 22, 2005, and October 20, 2005 he received between 300 and 600 images depicting the sexual exploitation of minors. He specifically admitted using a computer and the internet to obtain the images from various web sites, that many of the images were of prepubescent children, and that they depicted sadistic or masochistic conduct or other images of violence.

BRAZIL has been detained in federal custody since his arrest on February 16, 2006 as both a flight risk and as a danger to the community. At the time of his arrest, he was the owner of Brazil's Television Repair in Tulare, California.

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